

September 24, 2023

Welcome

Silent Meditation

Call to Worship: Isa 11:4-5

"Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done, and proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing to the LORD, for he has done glorious things; let this be known to all the world.

Hymn: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

#32

Invocation

The Law of Christ:

John 13:34-35

Pastor: Jesus our Savior summarized the moral law of God by saying,

Congregation: "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

Pastor: Beloved we have not done this as we ought; therefore, let us confess our sin:

Corporate Confession of sin:

Gracious Lord for all the blessings I have received, for the forgiveness of sins, for the abundance of goods I possess, I ought to be profoundly grateful and offer thanks to you at all times – But I do not. Rather I tend to grumble and complain. I covet and envy what others have. Clear away my understanding so that I can see with clear eyes the degree of your grace to me. Pardon my ingratitude. Make me a patient, loving, and thankful person – thankful especially for the blood of Jesus which cleanses me from all sin. Lord be merciful to me, a sinner, and forgive me for Jesus' sake. Amen

Personal (silent)

Assurance of Pardon: Eph 1:7-8

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding.

Congregation: We give praise to God for although he was angry with us his anger has been turned away and by faith in Christ our sins are forgiven.

Pastor: How far has he separated your sins from you?

Congregation: As far as the East is from the West, and he has replaced them with the righteousness of Christ

All: Praise and glory be to God our Father and to his Son Jesus our only Savior!

Pastor: 1Pe 2:24-25

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.²⁵ For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Congregation: We give thanks to you, our blessed Lord, that in Christ's death we died to sin. Grant that we may live unto righteousness, and that we would delight in obedience to you commands. Please, Holy Spirit, continue your work in us to cause us to reflect the image of Christ in all of our dealings.

Response:

Minister: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High, to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night. (Ps 92:1)

Congregation: For you make me glad by your deeds, O LORD; I sing for joy at the works of your hands. How great are your works, O LORD, how profound your thoughts! (Ps 92:4-5)

Hymn: My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

#521

Confession of Faith: Westminster Shorter Catechism in modern English

Q. 10. How did God create man?

God created man, male and female, in his own image, in knowledge, righteousness, and holiness, with rule over the creatures.

Q. 11. What are God's works of providence?

God's works of providence are his most holy, wise, and powerful preservation and control of all his creatures, and all their actions.

Q. 12. What special act of providence did God exercise toward man in the state in which he was created?

When God had created man, he entered into a covenant of life with him, on condition of perfect obedience, forbidding him to eat of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil on penalty of death.

Song: All I Have

All I have is by your mercy,
And all I have is all of grace.
All I am is what your love has made of me
Now I am your new creation,
Your workmanship in Jesus Christ,
Made to walk in works you have prepared for me.

Chorus:

I rejoice in all your kindness,
and I rejoice in all your goodness.
I rejoice in your great love for me.

All I have is from you, Father,
the Author of each perfect gift.
You gladly give me all things to enjoy in you.
You who did not spare your Son
But freely gave him for us all,
Will you not with joy supply my ev'ry need?

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel: Luke 20:1-19

Psalter: Ps 36:5-10 Thy Mercy and Thy Truth, O Lord (Tune Arlington, #154) #60

Epistle: Gal 5:1-10

For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

Look: I, Paul, say to you that if you accept circumcision, Christ will be of no advantage to you.

I testify again to every man who accepts circumcision that he is obligated to keep the whole law.

You are severed from Christ, you who would be justified by the law; you have fallen away from grace.

For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness.

For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

You were running well. Who hindered you from obeying the truth?

This persuasion is not from him who calls you.

A little leaven leavens the whole lump.

I have confidence in the Lord that you will take no other view than mine, and the one who is troubling you will bear the penalty, whoever he is.

Sermon: Grieving with Hope 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
[Licentiate, RE Matt Seufert]

Lord's Supper

Bread: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

#252

Cup: He Looked Beyond My Fault

Amazing grace shall always be my song of praise,

For it was grace that bought my liberty.

I do not know just why He came to love me so;

He looked beyond my fault and saw my need.

Chorus: I shall forever lift my eyes to Calvary,
To view the cross where Jesus died for me.
How marvelous the grace that caught my falling soul.
He looked beyond my fault and saw my need.

How can it be that Christ has paid my ransom?

How can it be He bled and died for me?

I do not know just how He came to love me so;

He looked beyond my fault and saw my need.

Chorus

Offering:

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise him all creatures here below.

Praise him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Prayer

Closing Song: **May the Grace of Christ Our Savior**

May the grace of Christ our Savior
And the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor,
Rest upon us from above.

Thus may we abide in union
With each other and the Lord,
And possess, in sweet communion,
Joys, which earth cannot afford.

Benediction

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